Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) Program 2005 Prevention Outreach Plan

Prevention Activity #1: MO HSEES website promotion and enhancement

Target Groups:

- Responders
- Emergency management organizations
- Medical care providers
- Local public health agencies
- Facilities/employees
- Members of the general public

Type of Prevention Activity:

Primary – Through promotion and enhancement of the MO HSEES website, target groups will have knowledge and awareness of the HSEES program and data.

Secondary – Providing enhanced information and data to responders, medical care providers, health agencies, and the general public will help these individuals minimize the morbidity and mortality that result from hazardous substance releases.

Justification:

Adding additional components to the MO HSEES website will provide increased knowledge and awareness of the program to responders, medical care providers, health agencies, facilities such as transportation companies, and the general public. New and updated information on the website will be publicized by mailing postcards, posting in publications and by using electronic mailing lists.

Description of Activity:

Additions will include, but are not limited to a comment area for feedback, information on how to report a spill, the ability to map events, and an option to sign up for the list serve to receive notification of updates. Reports and information regarding HSEES will continue to be added to the site. As enhancements to the website are made, those who have been added to the list serve will be notified.

Collaborators:

- DHSS Office of Surveillance Staff
- DHSS Health Resources Statistics Staff

Effectiveness Measure:

The number of "hits" on the website will measure effectiveness. The number of collaborative relationships with the target groups listed above should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: March 31, 2005

Prevention Activity #2: 2004 Annual Report

Target Groups:

- Emergency medical response personnel
- Professional and volunteer firefighters
- Police departments
- Emergency management organizations
- Emergency first responders
- Health care providers
- Local public health agencies
- Members of the general public

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary Increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events will promote safer handling and will lead to more effective responses to hazardous releases.
- Secondary Enhanced availability of data to responders, medical care providers, health agencies, and the general public will help these individuals minimize the morbidity and mortality that result from hazardous substance releases.

Justification:

Reports need to be completed on an annual basis to ensure that timely information is made available to the target groups.

Description of Activity:

Information collected through HSEES during 2004 will be analyzed and incorporated into the Office of Surveillance's annual report of various diseases and conditions occurring throughout the state. This report will be made available on the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website at www.dhss.mo.gov/hsees.

Collaborators:

 Other programs within the Office of Surveillance (i.e., Communicable Disease, HIV/AIDS/STD, Lead Screening, etc.).

Effectiveness Measure:

This activity will be considered effective if a decrease is noted statewide in the number of events and the number of injuries during calendar year 2005. The number of "hits" on the website will also measure effectiveness. The number of collaborative relationships with the target groups listed should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: June 30, 2005

Prevention Activity #3 Make HSEES data available through web mapping

Target Groups:

- Responders
- Emergency management organizations
- Medical care providers
- Local public health agencies
- Facilities/employees
- Members of the general public

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary Increased awareness of hazardous substance emergency events will promote safer handling and will lead to more effective responses to hazardous releases.
- Secondary Enhanced availability of data to responders, medical care providers, health agencies, and the general public will help these individuals minimize the morbidity and mortality that result from hazardous substance releases.

Justification:

Presently, all completed analysis of HSEES data has been conducted over multiple year periods (i.e., 1994-1998 data analysis, 1999-2001 data analysis) and are only available on the HSEES website for viewing and printing. Although this is a good source of providing information to the public, they cannot access information that may be important to their needs. With this system, additional information is available for the viewer to select specific information for certain events in a desired location in the state.

Description of Activity:

All finalized data collected through HSEES during will be analyzed and incorporated into the system. This will be publicized through an electronic list serve to interested parties and the link will be made available on the HSEES website. Information will be provided in database format and displayed on the web in an interactive map format.

Collaborators:

- Office of Surveillance GIS staff
- Center for Agricultural, Resource and Environmental Systems (University of Missouri – Columbia)

Effectiveness Measure:

The number of "hits" on the website will measure effectiveness. The number of collaborative relationships with the target groups listed should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: September 30, 2005

Prevention Activity #4: Quarterly Reports, 10 counties with highest number of events, 2002-2004

Target Groups:

- Emergency medical response personnel
- Professional and volunteer firefighters
- Police departments
- Emergency management organizations
- Emergency first responders
- Health care providers
- Local public health agencies

Type of Prevention Activity:

- Primary Increased awareness of chemical hazards will promote safer handling and transportation procedures.
- Secondary Information provided to emergency management officials, first responders, medical personnel, and health departments will enable them to minimize casualties and treat victims.

Justification:

This activity was conducted in 2000 - 2004. A survey was sent with the third quarter, 2001 report to determine how beneficial these reports are to the agencies that receive them, what information should be included that is not currently provided, what information is not considered helpful, and whether or not the majority of agencies feel this activity should be continued.

Description of Activity:

Quarterly reports summarizing information such as the number of events per county, risk factors, and trends will be developed for the ten counties that have the highest five-year total for number of events. These reports will be distributed to the county emergency management director, Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC), county and local fire and police departments, area hospitals, local public health agencies, and other interested parties.

Collaborators:

Emergency management directors, county and local fire and police departments, area hospitals and local public health agencies in the identified counties will be encouraged to contact the HSEES program with information relating to hazardous substance emergency events. This will increase the number and types of reporting sources for surveillance information.

Effectiveness Measure:

This activity will be considered effective if a decrease is noted statewide in the number of events and the number of injuries during calendar year 2005. The number of "hits" on the website will also measure effectiveness. The number of collaborative relationships with the target groups listed should increase significantly as a result of this activity.

Date Activity is to be Completed: Each quarterly summary will be distributed within 30 days of the close of the reporting quarter, i.e., January-March due April 30; April-June due July 30; July-September due October 30; and October-December due January 30, 2005.